IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-35. (Canceled)

36.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a network-based transaction facility including a plurality of front-end servers coupled to at least one network and to at least one back-end server, the plurality of front-end servers facilitating communications between the network-based transaction facility and at least one client machine coupled to the network;

the network-based transaction facility operable to receive a request from a client machine to view items that are offered for sale on the network-based transaction facility and to communicate the request through the plurality of front-end servers to the at least one back-end server; and

the at least one back-end server operable to search a database maintained by the network-based transaction facility, the database including at least one item offered for sale using an auction-type price setting process and at least one item offered for sale using a fixed price setting process; [[and]]

the at least one back-end server operable to generate a commingled list of items offered for sale based on the request and on data stored within the database, wherein the commingled list includes items being offered for sale by any combination of an auction-type price setting process and a fixed price setting process; and

to communicate the commingled list through the plurality of front-end servers and over the network to the client machine[[,]]

~~wherein the commingled list includes items being offered for sale by any combination of an auction-type price setting process and a fixed price setting process.~~

37.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the plurality of front-end servers includes:

a page server operable to deliver web pages;

a picture server operable to dynamically deliver images to be displayed within web pages;

a listing server operable to facilitate category-based browsing of one or more items being offered for sale on the network-based transaction facility; and

a search server operable to receive search requests and facilitate keyword-based browsing of the one or more items being offered for sale on the network-based transaction facility.

38.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the at least one back-end server includes a search index server coupled to a search index server database.

39.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the at least one back-end server includes a credit card database server coupled to a credit card server database.

40.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the database includes a database engine server coupled to at least one engine server database including a user table, the user table containing a respective record for each of a plurality of users of the network-based transaction facility.

41.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein each of the plurality of users is a seller, a buyer, or both a seller and a buyer within the network-based transaction facility.

42.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the engine server database includes an item table that is linked to the user table and that includes a sellers items table and a bidder items table, wherein each link between the item table and the user table indicates whether a user listed in the user table is a seller or a buyer with respect to one or more items for which records are included within the items table.

43.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42, wherein the item table includes a number of fields for each of a plurality of records that describe an item offered for sale via the network-based transaction facility.

44.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 43, wherein at least one of the number of fields includes a sale type field operable to record the type of item that indicates a price-setting process by which a price for the item relevant to the record associated with the item being offered for sale is established.

45.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the plurality of front-end serves act in combination as a display engine to facilitate the display at the at least one client machine of the commingled list of items generated by the network-based transaction facility.

46.   (Currently Amended) A method to facilitate a transaction by a network-based transaction facility, the method comprising:

storing in a database maintained by the network-based transaction facility a listing of a plurality of items being offered for sale by a seller in a virtual store of the seller, wherein the items offered for sale are associated with a plurality of transaction types including an auction price-setting process and a fixed price-setting process;

accepting a search criteria, from a buyer, to retrieve a specific item offered for sale by the seller and that meets the search criteria;

searching the database to determine if any items being offered for sale by the seller meet the search criteria[[,]] wherein the items offered for sale are associated with a plurality of transaction types including one of an auction price-setting process and a fixed price-setting process;

generating a commingled list of located items offered for sale by the seller that meet the search criteria; and

communicating the generated commingled list to the buyer.

47.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, further including:

accepting a search request from the buyer to view only those items in the commingled list that are an auction items;

generating an auction items list of items from the commingled list, the auction items list including only auction items; and

displaying the auctions items list of items to the buyer.

48.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the plurality of transaction types include items for sale using a hybrid auction/fixed price-setting.

49.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, further including:

accepting a search request from the buyer to view only those items from the commingled list that include a fixed price purchase option;

generate a fixed price list of items from the commingled list, the fixed price list including items that have a fixed price purchase option; and

display the fixed price list of items to the buyer.

50.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, further including:

accepting a request from the buyer to sort the commingled list by a specific criteria, wherein the specific criteria includes one of a price, a specific transaction type, and an end time;

generating a sorted list, the sorted list sorted based on the specific criteria; and

communicating the sorted list to the buyer.

51.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, further including

storing in the database a stores portion including a listing of stores available for buyer selection;

providing an interface which allow the buyer to indicate a selection from the listing of stores; and

receiving from the buyer a selection including an ~~indiction~~ indication of a selection from the listing of stores.

52.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the selection includes a selection from a listing of stores provided according to a category; and

providing an interface displaying a list of seller's virtual stores based on the selected category.

53.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, further including:

receiving from the buyer a selection indicating a chooses one of seller's virtual stores from the listing of stores.

54.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein after receiving a selection indicating the chosen one of the seller's virtual stores, performing a look-up operation on an items table within the database to obtain a title and details including a transaction type associated with each of one or more items available in the chosen one of the seller's virtual stores.

55.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing a sequence of instructions that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform a method comprising:

storing in a database maintained by the network-based transaction facility a listing of a plurality of items being offered for sale by a seller in a virtual store of the seller;

accepting a search criteria, from a buyer, to retrieve a specific item offered for sale by the seller and that meets the search criteria;

searching the database to determine if any items being offered for sale by the seller meet the search criteria, wherein the items offered for sale are associated with a plurality of transaction types including one of an auction price-setting process and a fixed price-setting process;

generating a commingled list of located items offered for sale by the seller that meet the search criteria; and

communicating the generated commingled list to the buyer.

56. (New) The system of claim 36, wherein the database includes items offered for sale in at least one seller's virtual store that offers for sale both at least one item for sale using an auction-type price setting process and at least one item offered for sale using a fixed price setting process.